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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/424,431	03/16/2000	JOHN W WONG	287300022USA	7974

7590 04/03/2003

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EXAMINER

MENDOZA, MICHAEL G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3761

DATE MAILED: 04/03/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

N.K

Offic Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/424,431	WONG, JOHN W
	Examiner Michael G. Mendoza	Art Unit 3761

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 February 2003.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 15 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 15 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rienmueller et al. 5067494 in view of Nord 5915381 in further view of Anderson et al. 6436127.

4. Rienmueller et al. teaches an apparatus for suspending ventilation in a patient and delivering radiation therapy to the patient during suspended ventilation, the apparatus comprising; an apparatus 8 for identifying a specific air flow direction and lung volume of the patient (col. 2, lines 3-4); an apparatus 14 for suspending patient ventilation at the specific air flow direction and lung volume (col. 2, lines 12-19); and an apparatus 1 for administering radiation therapy during suspension of patient ventilation (col. 1, lines 63-65). It should be noted that Rienmueller et al. fails to teach the ventilator assembly having a first selectively operable valve for inhalation control and a second selectively operable valve for exhalation control.

Nord teaches an apparatus with a common first selectively operable valve for inhalation control and a second selectively operable valve for exhalation control for controlling inhalation of a breathing gas and exhalation of expired gases. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Rienmueller et al. to include the valves of Nord for allowing a breathing gas to be carried to the patient (col. 2, lines 49-65) for ventilation of patients with diseased or damaged lungs (col. 1, lines 25-26).

It should also be noted that Rienmueller/Nord fails to specifically teach an abort switch adapted to halt the apparatus and open closed one of the first and second selectively operable valves.

Anderson et al. teaches an apparatus for delivering radiation therapy with a common abort switch (col. 12, lines 3-5). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Rienmueller/Nord to include the about switch of Anderson et al. to allow termination of radiation therapy if the correct parameters are not optimum (col. 13, lines 58-63). Furthermore, Rienmueller/Nord is fully capable of performing the same function (col. 4, lines 1-5).

Contacts

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael G. Mendoza whose telephone number is (703) 305-3285. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on (703) 308-1957. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 306-4520 for regular communications and (703) 306-4520 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0858.

MM

March 20, 2003

GKD

GLENN K. DAWSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER